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## APPENDIX F

### ALL-EMPLOYEE MESSAGES

The establishment of an employee communications system early in the fall 1998 200 East Area biological vector contamination event, coupled with frequent and regular updates thereafter, proved to be a successful implementation of “risk communication theory” in practice.

It was decided early on that Hanford Site employees should be kept informed of unfolding events either simultaneous to, or immediately following, notification of management. The adage that if one is not given information, one will speculate (usually negatively) was the principle on which the communicators operated. Therefore, every attempt was made to inform employees of the latest findings and developments *as soon as* they became available, with no detail spared. Successful execution of this function can be attributed to U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office management giving full responsibility to Fluor Daniel Hanford, Inc., as the single point of contact. Had this responsibility not been under a single point of contact, the messages would not have been as prompt or as effective.

The operating principle of early, frequent, easily accessible, and detailed employee communication proved to be successful, based on the feedback that the communications team received. Several employees and their family members expressed appreciation of the efforts of the communications team to keep speculation to a minimum.

The following pages are exact copies of the all-employee General Delivery e-mail messages that were sent out via the Hanford Local Area Network to every computer on Site.

#### GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGES ON HANFORD INTRANET:

10-05-98	Contamination Spread Outside of Controlled Areas
10-07-98	Update on Contamination Spreads
10-07-98	Additional Update on Contamination Spreads
10-07-98	Waste Minimization to Prevent contamination Spreads
10-08-98	Thursday Update on Contamination Spreads
10-09-98	Thank You!
10-09-98	Friday Update on Contamination Spread
10-12-98	Contamination Spread Questions and Answers
10-12-98	Trash Collection
10-13-98	Tuesday Update on Contamination Spreads
10-15-98	Update on Contamination Spreads
10-29-98	Update on Contamination Spreads

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GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGEOCTOBER 5, 1998  
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TO: All FDH and Subcontractor Company Employees

FROM: Robert Shoup, vice-president, FDH Environment, Safety  
and Health, and Robert Frix, president, DynCorp Tri-  
Cities Services, Inc.

SUBJECT: CONTAMINATION SPREAD OUTSIDE OF CONTROLLED AREAS

This message is to provide you with updated information as we work to resolve this issue.

Low levels of radioactive contamination were found outside of Hanford Site radiation control areas in eleven separate locations last week, prompting the formation of a Project Hanford Management Contract (PHMC) investigative team and the isolation of an area just south of B-Plant in the 200-East Area.

Contamination was detected in a dumpster, two Site garbage trucks, two mobile office trailers, five other buildings, a government van, and on the personal belongings of one worker. The contamination has now been isolated in the area near B-Plant in the 200-East Area. Intensive radiological surveys were started last Wednesday in the affected area, which measures about 500 yards by 200 yards. Radiological control personnel have posted and roped off the area, they are controlling access, and conducting surveys of all personnel and equipment that leave the area. Although two contaminated spots were found in the 200-West Area, those areas have been decontaminated and released to normal operations.

All employees known to work in the affected area have been contacted and surveyed. Four contaminated socks were discovered at the home of one Hanford worker, but no other contamination has been detected off-Site. Whole-body counts were conducted at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's in vitro assay facility on any persons requesting them. Thus far, approximately 40 people have undergone the assay with no contamination found. Radiological surveys will continue to safeguard any other employees who may have been in the contaminated vicinity last week.

Any contamination outside of radiation zones on the Hanford Site or elsewhere is unacceptable. We take any contamination spreads very seriously, and we are committed to making sure that such events don't happen again.

Before the contamination was found on the garbage trucks, one of them transported a load to the Richland City landfill. Although it is not known that any contaminated solid waste reached the

Richland landfill, DynCorp Tri-Cities Services, Inc. and Fluor Daniel Hanford, Inc. (FDH) officials notified city officials soon after discovering the first contaminated spot on a garbage truck. They then began a series of joint planning discussions between PHMC investigative team members and city officials. An initial radiological survey of the city landfill found no contamination.

Weather permitting, excavation of potentially affected areas of the landfill is beginning today, under the joint supervision of personnel from the Washington Department of Health, the city, FDH and DynCorp. Deliveries of Hanford solid waste to the Richland landfill have been halted temporarily.

The contamination was discovered during routine radiological surveys last Monday in a trailer used by craftspeople just south of B-Plant in the 200-East Area. Immediately, surveys were extended to facilities and dumpsters in the 200-East Area, to vehicles and facilities Site-wide that are used by these crafts, and to many additional locations. An occurrence was declared, and notifications were made to city, county, and state officials, the Department of Energy (DOE), Richland Operations Office and to DOE headquarters.

Worker safety is our highest priority. We are open and ready to provide information or surveys to anyone concerned. The PHMC investigative team will continue to meet daily until the contamination source has been identified, decontaminated and all areas returned to normal. A lessons learned critique will be performed to identify future protective measures.

Site employees wanting additional information can tune to radio AM530 (the Hanford Site broadcast channel), or can call the DynCorp information line at 373-1212. Employees who wish to have questions answered may leave a recorded message on the DynCorp hotline at 376-4055. As new information is discovered, it will be disseminated through additional employee communications. □

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GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGEOctober 7, 1998  
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TO: All FDH and Subcontractor Company Employees

FROM: Bob Shoup, vice president, Environment, Safety and  
Health, FDH, AND Bob Frix, president and general  
manager, DynCorp Tri-Cities Services

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON CONTAMINATION SPREADS

We promised to update you with more information, as it becomes available, regarding contamination spreads outside of radiation control zones on the Hanford Site.

We have now found contamination on fruit flies, gnats and other pests on wet garbage in three areas, two of which are in the area that was roped off last week just south of B-Plant in 200-East Area. Contaminated fruit flies also have been trapped on pest strips in other locations in the specified area.

Additionally, we found contaminated fruit flies on garbage in a trash can just outside of the Canister Storage Building, about 1/4 to 1/3 mile west of the roped off area in 200-East Area. The Spent Nuclear Fuel Project, which is constructing the Canister Storage Building, has suspended work in that facility as a precautionary measure until such time as the pests are eradicated there. We are conducting an extensive health physics survey in the facility to confirm that it is free of contamination before we allow activities to resume there. Managers of the Spent Nuclear fuel project will communicate with the 8-10 affected employees regarding their return to work.

Pests such as ants, gnats, fruit flies, and rodents occur naturally both on and off the Hanford Site. On the Hanford Site, we conduct general periodic sprayings to control these pests, and we have now stepped up spraying and fumigating activities in areas where the flies have been found.

The pests may be related to the contamination spreads outside of radiation control zones that we reported to you on Monday. It is possible that they constitute a transport method for the spread of contamination, which was first detected in a mobile office trailer and which now has spread to the locations reported Monday, to two additional facilities just south of B-Plant, and to three garbage cans.

The Canister Storage Facility is the only areas outside of the roped-off area near B-Plant where new contamination has been found this week. The other facilities where contamination has been found (or has been found on garbage nearby) is limited to the roped-off area near B-Plant, including the 212B, 225BE, 272BC, 274E, 275E, 2245B, 2707E, 2711E, 2719E, 2721EA, MO958, MO959 and MO967 facilities. In the 200-West Area, contamination was found and decontaminated last week in two facilities. No further contamination has been detected in the 200-West Area.

None of the contamination is of the alpha type, which means that none of it is associated with plutonium. We have confirmed that

the contamination is composed principally of strontium-90.

All information on this situation will be conveyed to you as soon as we learn it, and we will provide frequent updates as warranted. The employees on the Hanford Site, and the citizens of the Tri-Cities, have a right to know that they are living and working in a safe and healthful environment. We pledge to answer your questions and to persevere in finding, containing and controlling all sources of contamination that could spread outside of controlled areas.

To keep track of information in a single clearing house, we have established a situation room in the 2420 Stevens Center Building. For more information, or to provide new facts, send a cc:mail to David Marsh or call him at 376-9573 or 376-9596.

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GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGEOctober 7, 1998  
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TO: All FDH and Subcontractor Company Employees

FROM: Bob Shoup, vice president, Environment, Safety Health,  
and Quality, FDH, AND Bob Frix, president and general  
manager, DynCorp Tri-Cities Services

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL UPDATE ON CONTAMINATION SPREADS

We would like to provide you with more information about the steps being taken to address the recent contamination spreads outside of controlled radiation areas. On Monday, representatives of the Project Management Hanford Contract (PHMC) companies, the City of Richland, the Washington Department of Health, and the Department of Energy (RL) met for mutual discussion of the situation. Later that day, the PHMC Company and City representatives briefed the public media and answered their questions. Additionally, they formed an integrated action team with three major sub-teams. The teams are meeting daily, with RL, other Hanford contractors, the Washington Department of Health, and others.

The integrated team is headed by Dr. Bob Shoup, FDH vice president for Environment, Safety, Health and Quality, and by Bob DeLannoy, DynCorp senior director for Environment, Safety, Health and Quality. Other key members include Tom Harper, director of Infrastructure for FDH, Bob Frix, president and general manager of DynCorp, and Mike Dallas, operations director for DynCorp.

The Radiological Control sub-team is headed by Greg Perkins, radiological control manager for FDH. This team is working actively to survey for contamination in the area that has been posted and roped off just south of B-Plant in the 200-East Area and in any other areas where contamination is reported or suspected; and to search for the cause(s) and source(s) of the contamination. This team also is working with pest control personnel from Waste Management Services Northwest (WMNW), to trap, investigate and develop plans to eradicate pests that may be causing contamination spreads. A decision is expected within the next 24 hours as to spraying methods, pesticides, and methods and times of application.

Thus far, beta-emitting radiation contamination has been found at levels ranging from 2,000 disintegrations per minute (dpm) to about one million dpm, fixed on facilities and garbage. The contamination is composed primarily of strontium 90, and the highest level reading would give about 8-12 millirads on a direct survey. If a person were exposed to this level of radiation, it would be equivalent to a dental X-Ray. To date, no employee is known to have received a radiation dose from this contamination.

The Solid Waste sub-team is headed by Bill Ferree, logistics director for DynCorp. This team is working on several actions, including emptying, cleaning and fumigating the Site's garbage trucks; obtaining state permits to work in the Richland city landfill and the Site burial grounds; covering and cleaning up trash on the Hanford Site; developing a contingency plan to deal with Hanford's sanitary refuse in the near term before city landfill arrangements return to normal; and developing criteria for the resumption of off-Site garbage shipments in the future.

The Solid Waste sub-team is also working closely with the City of Richland on landfill excavation, which began Monday about 2 PM. Contamination has been discovered in the landfill and actions are underway to remove that material and to continue excavation of all other potentially affected areas.

The Policy sub-team is headed by Bob Shoup, and focuses on information, communications, employee health, planning, notifications and critical paths forward.

The integrated team and all of the sub-teams are committed to working together, communicating openly, and finding and controlling sources of radioactivity. The specific cause of the contamination spreads experienced this past week at Hanford has not yet been identified. However, any spread of contamination outside of controlled areas, even small amounts, is unacceptable. Employees and citizens of this region should have confidence that their environment is safe and healthy.

Actions planned by the teams in the near future include continuing to survey potentially affected employees, and working with the PHMC employee health advocate and the PHMC safety office to provide information and assistance to employees. In addition, intensified radiological surveys are continuing in the 200-East Area, with confirming surveys in other Site areas to ensure that there is no further spread.

Health physics experts from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory have been called in to consult with the teams and to provide information to employees. They confirm that adequate bio-assay tools exist. Because the principal contaminant has been identified as strontium-90, whole body counts and lung counts do not provide useful information.

We have confirmed that pests are transporting and causing the spread of contamination in the immediate area south of B-Plant in the 200-East Area. We encourage all persons on the Hanford Site to carry their food in closed containers, to wrap all garbage in plastic and cover trash cans with lids. Do not leave fruit, cookies, or other unwrapped food out in bowls or on tables. These precautions can help to provide good hygiene at all times, and especially in seasons when pests are abundant. There have been no incidents of personnel contamination from fruit flies or other pests.

To keep track of information in a single clearing house, we have established a situation room in the 2420 Stevens Center Building. For more information, or to provide new facts, send a cc:mail to David Marsh or call him at 376-9573 or 376-9596.

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GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGE  
October 7, 1998  
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TO: All FDH and Subcontractor Company Employees

FROM: Bob Shoup, vice president, Environment, Safety Health,  
and Quality, FDH, AND Bob Frix, president and general  
manager, DynCorp Tri-Cities Services

SUBJECT: WASTE MINIMIZATION TO PREVENT CONTAMINATION SPREADS

Preventing pollution or reducing waste requires everyone to take an active role--especially with the deliveries of Hanford's solid waste to the Richland City Landfill temporarily halted. The following are some tips to REDUCE the amount of trash discarded, REUSE containers and products, and RECYCLE materials through existing Site programs.

There are a number of ways we can reduce, at the source, the amount of waste generated. Some examples of ways to reduce paper waste include: utilizing electronic distribution of correspondence, documents, and presentations, editing on the computer before printing; eliminating cover sheets when faxing; posting notices and information through e-mail instead of using handouts; sharing newspapers and magazines with others to extend the lives of these items, and requesting to be removed from junk mail lists by writing "return to sender" on the envelope or calling the company's 800 ordering number and requesting to be removed from the mailing list.

Some inventory management techniques are to encourage shippers to use minimal packaging and reusable shipping containers, avoid over-purchasing, practice inventory controls with "first in, first out" policy to prevent unnecessary waste generation from retaining materials past their expiration dates, exercise careful storage practices.

If it's not possible to reduce the waste source, consider reusable products. For example, bring mugs to work, meetings and conferences, rather than using disposable cups. Use sturdy and washable utensils and tableware. Before discarding bags, containers, and other items, consider if it is hygienic and practical to reuse them. Reuse scrap paper and envelopes. Use both sides of a piece of paper for writing notes before recycling. Reuse newspaper, boxes, packaging "peanuts" and "bubble wrap" to ship packages. Wash and reuse empty glass and plastic jars, milk jugs, coffee cans, dairy tubs, and other similar containers. (Do not reuse containers that originally held products such as motor oils or pesticides). Use cloth napkins, sponges, or dishcloths that can be washed and reused. Use rechargeable batteries.

Choose recyclable products and containers and recycle them through the Site's extensive recycling programs. Some materials recycled include: paper, toner cartridges, cardboard, software, scrap metal, chemicals, batteries, DOP ballasts, and lamps. Recycle flowcharts by commodity and point of contact are available on the Hanford Pollution Prevention Homepage at Uniform Resource Locator: <http://apsql05rl.gov/polprev/sanitary/sanitary.htm>. Utilize facility recycling containers for glass, plastic, tin, magazines and newsprint. If containers are not available at your facility, for the PHMC and BHI contact Kathleen Hinkelman at 376-7631 or PNNL contact Elizabeth Raney at 376-7632.

Recycle your transparencies by sending them to Waste Management Hanford Pollution Prevention at H6-06 (attention: Dionetta Freeman) or send directly to 3M Recycle Program, c/o Gemmark, 99 Stevens Lane, Exeter, PA 18643. Outdated telephone books can be collected in a central location for pickup by USWest.

By reconsidering waste producing activities and by making environmentally conscious decisions about everyday work, we can reduce the amount of solid waste generated.

If you need more information, please Donna Merry of Waste Management Hanford Pollution Prevention Program at 376-9773.

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GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGE  
OCTOBER 8, 1998  
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TO: All FDH and Subcontractor Employees

FROM: Bob Shoup, vice president, Environment, Safety,  
Health, and Quality, FDH, and Bob Frix, president and  
general manager, DynCorp Tri-Cities Services

SUBJECT: THURSDAY UPDATE ON CONTAMINATION SPREADS

We promised you that we would provide updates on the resolution of the contamination spreads experienced during the past few days. In the past 48 hours, we have not found any further areas of contamination on the Hanford Site.

**RICHLAND CITY LANDFILL UPDATE**

However, contamination has been found on two pieces of garbage from the Hanford Site in the Richland City landfill, halting the excavation of the landfill until environmental permits can be obtained to move the contaminated waste back onto the Hanford Site. One piece of solid waste found at the city landfill read 70,000 disintegrations per minute (dpm), and one piece read 660,000 dpm of measured radioactivity. The highest reading is still indicative of material that could deliver an extremely low dose of radiation, equivalent to about 1/2 of a chest X-Ray, if it were ingested. The radioactive material found on the solid waste continues to be principally strontium-90, a beta-emitter that is not related to plutonium. Continuous air monitors set up at the Richland landfill in the excavation area show no spread of the contamination, indicating that any insects in the area are not contaminated.

As of 10 AM today, two important permits have been signed by the Washington Department of Health. One permit allows removal of the contaminated waste from the Richland city landfill back to the Hanford Site. The waste removal was due to begin almost immediately after the permit was issued. However, due to windy conditions at the landfill, city and Site officials made a joint decision not to begin the removal operation until the wind diminishes. The other permit will allow the contaminated waste to be buried at Hanford. We are very pleased that the permitting actions were accomplished quickly, so that we could begin waste removal. Any contamination off of the Hanford Site is unacceptable, and we want to retrieve the contaminated material from the city landfill as soon as possible.

**COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES**

Other important activities that have occurred in the past 48 hours included a media availability/briefing on Wednesday by Bob Shoup, vice president, Environment, Safety, Health and Quality for FDH,

and Bob DeLannoy, senior director, Environment, Safety, Health and Quality for DynCorp. The briefing was attended by five officials of the City of Richland, including Mayor Larry Haler and new city manager Ron Rabun. FDH president Ron Hanson reiterated at the briefing that the city will have full access to the resources of the Project Hanford Management Contract (PHMC) companies to resolve the current situation.

Hanson also stressed the need for open and frequent communication with the city, and with Site employees and the public. Three all-employee messages were issued yesterday, in addition to the one issued Monday. Hanson also issued two messages to the presidents of the PHMC companies, stressing the value of open communications. It is important to Ron Hanson and to us that communications be factual and timely, and that managers and employees take time to read and understand the facts presented.

A special meeting was held yesterday by B&W Hanford Co. management with B-Plant employees, and both the Spent Fuel Project and Lockheed Martin Hanford Co. prepared messages to their employees.

#### PHMC EMPLOYEE HEALTH ADVOCATE

The PHMC employee health advocate, along with a health physicist from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and FDH Safety Director Dave Jackson met with a group of employees identified as potentially interested due to their work locations near the affected area south of B-Plant. It was a positive meeting, with several matters raised by employees. The PHMC employee health advocate pledged to take several actions that were requested by employees, including installing portal control monitors in some additional locations on the Hanford Site, locating some additional employees who may want bio-assay surveys, contacting appropriate persons to correct a rainwater leak in one building, and other actions.

#### NEW TEAM FORMED

In another important development yesterday, an Operations Team was formed to manage activities in the situation room that has been established in the 2420 Stevens Center Building. The Operations Team is headed by Richard DeBusk of FDH emergency preparedness.

#### RADIOLOGICAL CONTROL TEAM

The Radiological Control team that we described to you yesterday continues to look for the source(s) of the radioactivity in the roped-off area just south of B-Plant in Hanford's 200-East Area. We have not yet isolated the source. However, we are paying close attention to a sucrose-based contamination fixative spray that has been used in the area when enclosed, contaminated piping and equipment has been opened up in order to perform work. There are indications that the sugar-based spray may be attractive to pests such as flies and gnats, and these insects could serve as the transport mechanism to spread contamination. Nonetheless, we continue a concerted effort to identify other sources of contamination.

We have increased spraying in the roped-off area in order to eradicate the insects. Waste Management Services Northwest (WMNW) has purchased a new "fogger" truck that will be delivered tonight, so that more extensive spraying can be conducted beginning tomorrow. We are surveying virtually everything in the affected area, which measures about 10 acres, and we are covering and taping over any contamination we find. Some employees have asked

why we cannot proceed faster to "shrink" the perimeter of the affected area, but we believe it is prudent to work slowly, thoroughly and carefully in order to be sure we contain any contamination and protect employee health and safety by preventing contamination spread.

Additional measures being taken by the Radiological Control team include trapping insects on new traps being placed at multiple locations around the Site, both inside and outside of the 10-acre area south of B-Plant, examining the exteriors of vehicles parked in the area; and sealing, taping and spraying garbage dumpsters and the Site's garbage trucks. The 152-ER diversion box, located in the affected area and considered to be a potential contamination source, is sealed. Today, Atlanta Avenue will be blocked from just north of MO414 to just north of the B-Plant north parking lot, in order to prevent private vehicles from passing through the affected area while survey teams continue their work.

#### **SOLID WASTE TEAM**

The Solid Waste team is working closely with Richland City officials at the city landfill site. We plan to remove the Hanford waste that was disposed in the city landfill during the final days of September. We expect that our waste removal activities at the city landfill can be finished in about a week.

Other activities of the Solid Waste team include formulating contingency plans for disposal of the approximately 5.5 tons of Hanford garbage generated by ordinary housekeeping and personal activities each day, and readying a staging area to survey the refuse currently in the Hanford garbage trucks.

We will continue to communicate with you often until the contamination spreads and sources are identified, contained and controlled. As citizens and employees, you have a right to a safe and healthy environment, and you have a right to know the actions we are taking to provide such an environment. You also have a right to know what we are finding, in terms of contamination locations, types and levels.

#### **HANFORD WEED AND PEST CONTROL PROGRAM**

While the Hanford Site periodically finds contaminated rodents, ants and beetles, contaminated flying insects have not been detected for many years. In an integration effort planned since last summer, the PHMC Weed and Pest Management Program soon will integrate under DynCorp. This integration will improve the efficiency of spraying and other pest control activities, and is one of the long-term solutions to improve environmental protection.

The Hanford Site has maintained weed and pest control programs since World War II in order to exterminate intrusive and nuisance pests; prevent disease; control vegetation along roadways, power lines and fire breaks; protect property, and provide a clean work environment. Additionally, through an agreement with local counties, the Site program controls noxious weeds so that Hanford does not become a seedbed for weeds that are destructive to farming.

For more information on the contamination spreads, the search for the source(s), the removal of trash from the city landfill, or to provide new facts, send a cc:mail to David Marsh or call him at

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GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGEOctober 9, 1998  
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TO: All FDH and Subcontractor Company Employees

FROM: Ron Hanson, FDH President &amp; CEO

SUBJECT: THANK YOU!

With the weekend almost here I want to express my thanks to everyone who has worked so hard for the past two weeks to respond to the contamination problem we have experienced. While no one wants this kind of problem to occur, it is gratifying to know we have the capable and dedicated people on this site to respond to such situations. It is also important to note that discovery of this problem shows our surveillance program works. The problem was discovered quickly, allowing us to respond immediately, preventing a far worse situation from occurring.

Our highest priority since the problem was discovered on September 28 has been the protection of our employees, the public and the environment. But you are on the front lines. Your health and safety are paramount. I want to reiterate that our policy is no tolerance for contamination outside of controlled radiation areas. Such situations are simply unacceptable. That is why we are working so hard to locate any contamination that may have reached the Richland landfill and return it to the site. Excavation at the landfill resumed at 7:30 this morning and will continue through the weekend until the work is finished.

We have tried very hard to provide you with frequent updates on our situation so that you have the very latest information. Our teams responding to the problem have approached the situation in an orderly manner to identify and contain the spread of contamination. Others are trying very hard to pinpoint the source of the contamination. This kind of problem is extremely rare at Hanford and we need to learn as much as we can to ensure it never happens again. Lessons learned will be shared with you as soon as they are available and with the rest of the DOE complex.

We have also added a new page to the Hanford web site under What's New. Or, you can go directly to the page at:

<http://www.hanford.gov/safety/conspread/index.html>

The page will include all of the employee messages that have been sent out on this subject, maps and other information, plus points of contact and telephone numbers, should you have questions or comments.

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GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGE  
October 9, 1998  
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MANAGERS - PLEASE POST!!! PLEASE POST!!! PLEASE POST!!!

TO: All Site Employees

FROM: James Mecca, RL Deputy Assistant Manager, Facilities  
Transition, Bob Chap, vice president, Environment,  
Safety Health, and Quality, FDH, and Bob Frix,  
president and general manager, DynCorp Tri-Cities  
Services

SUBJECT: FRIDAY UPDATE ON CONTAMINATION SPREAD

We continue to be committed to keeping you informed of steps being taken to address the recent contamination spreads outside of controlled radiation areas.

On Thursday, one spot of new contamination was found inside the posted and roped-off area south of B Plant. As of this morning, no new contamination had been found outside of that area.

Normal work has resumed at the Spent Nuclear Fuel Canister Storage Building construction site, where contamination was removed from several locations in and around the building. Personnel monitoring is being offered to workers at that site.

If you wish to have access to personnel monitoring but do not have that service available at your workplace, several additional locations are now available to you. The list of locations is at the bottom of this message. Monitoring of personal vehicles is ongoing upon request at the monitoring stations listed below. No contamination was found on any of the vehicles surveyed since last weekend.

#### **RICHLAND CITY LANDFILL UPDATE**

We are acting to retrieve contaminated material from the city landfill as soon as possible. We also are establishing procedures to prevent such contamination from occurring in the future.

Representatives from the Solid Waste Team, including the Department of Energy, met with the City of Richland engineer yesterday and presented a plan for the site to resume shipments of refuse to the Richland landfill. Plan was well received. The final decision will rest with obtaining concurrence from the city. The team also presented a plan outlining a new policy under which the site will transport solid waste to the landfill. That plan includes extensive verification surveys to ensure that no

contaminated material is sent to the landfill. Any contamination outside of designated radiation zones on the Hanford Site is unacceptable.

At 7:30 this morning we began removing contaminated solid waste from the landfill. (High wind conditions prevented the start of operations yesterday.) That work will continue through the weekend and until the job is finished. Approximately 35 tons of material will be returned to Hanford. The material will be delivered to a building in the Central Waste Complex, surveyed, packaged, and disposed of in the Hanford low level waste burial grounds.

#### PEST CONTROL

Waste Management Northwest continues to spray onsite dumpsters with insecticide and to cover dumpsters. A new insecticide sprayer truck is onsite, as is the insecticide material. If weather conditions permit, spraying will begin tomorrow, Saturday, within the roped-off area south of B Plant. Additional sprayings are planned for Sunday and possibly on following days, as operational activities allow.

During spraying and for approximately 12 hours after the spraying employees will need to remain clear of the boundary area. The spraying is limited to the 10-acre roped-off area. The chemical to be applied is "Clean Crop Malathion 57EC." The MSDS number is 016235A. The employee health advocate's office 373-1289 or 628-0697 has been provided with information on this chemical, as has the contamination control team at 376-9573 or 376-9596.

If it becomes necessary for you to enter the boundary area, please contact Tom Nemzek of Waste Management Northwest at pager number 85-3218.

Removing food sources as breeding areas is key to controlling pests; these pests appear to be the significant source of the contamination spread. Two hundred new insect traps are being set today in the contaminated area and other locations around the site.

#### EMPLOYEE MEETINGS

We continue to hold your health and safety as our highest priority. Your concerns are our concerns. Later today we will be distributing a list of frequently asked questions and responses. We also have instituted an Internet site that is available to you, your families and the public. The site will include all employee messages. You can access it at:  
<http://www.hanford.gov/safety/conspread/index.html>

#### LOCATIONS WHERE PERSONNEL MONITORING IS AVAILABLE

##### 200 EAST

LOCATION	TYPE OF MONITORING	ACCESSIBILITY	ACCESS HOURS
272AW	PCM-1B	Easy Access - Near Lunch room - located in a non-rad area	Contact Shift Mgr. 24 hrs

RCT Survey Easy Access - HPT Office Contact Shift  
located in a non-rad area Mgr. 24 hrs

209E PCM-1B Easy Access - located in a Sign in at Front  
non-rad area desk 7am-3pm

2704HV RCT Survey Easy Access - HPT Office Contact HPT  
rm H104 located in a non-rad area Office rm H104  
7am-3:30

M0-048 PCM-1B Easy Access - located in Contact DynCorp  
non-rad area HPT office as  
needed  
7am-3:30

2025E RCT Survey HPT Office - located in a Contact Shift Mgr  
(200 LERF) non-rad area 7am -3:30

200 E Hand & Foot Easy Access - Maint. Area 7am - 3:30  
Garage Monitor located in a non-rad area

#### 200 West

LOCATION	TYPE OF MONITORING	ACCESSIBILITY	ACCESS HOURS	ACCESS
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272WA	PCM-1B	Easy Access - Near lunch room-located in a non-rad area	Contact Shift Mgr. 24 hour	
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RCT Survey Easy Access - HPT Office Contact Shift  
located in a non-rad area Mgr. 24 hour

M0-438 RCT Survey Easy Access - HPT Office 7am - 3:30pm  
located in a non-rad area

271T RCT Survey Easy Access - HPT Office Contact HPT  
located in a non-rad area Office  
7am-3:30pm

222S Lab. RCT Survey HPT Office - located in a Go to front

non-rad area within desk and  
facility contact HPT  
Office  
7am-3:30p

M0-556 PCM-1B Easy access - located in a 7am - 3:30pm  
non-rad area Contact DynCorp  
HPT office as  
needed

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GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGEOctober 12, 1998  
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TO: All Site Employees

FROM: James Mecca, RL Deputy Assistant Manager, Facilities  
Transition; Bob Shoup, FDH vice president,  
Environment, Safety Health, and Quality; and  
Bob Frix, president and general manager, DynCorp  
Tri-Cities Services

SUBJECT: CONTAMINATION SPREAD QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following are questions Hanford employees and others have most frequently asked about the contamination spread. Responses have been provided by members of the Project Hanford Management Contract team that is responding to the issue.

## 1. How can I be sure I am not transporting contamination home?

The contamination has been confined principally to an area within a radius of approximately 1/4 mile from the border of the 10-acre radiological buffer area just south of B Plant. Intensive radiological surveillance continues to take place around this area and the site.

Other than the craftsperson with contamination found in his boot, no other personnel contamination has been detected over the past two weeks. All individuals known to have been in or around the affected area of 200 East Area have been surveyed. No contamination was found on the individuals or on any personal vehicles. More than half of the bioassays taken, including that of the craftsperson, have been returned. They show no evidence of contamination.

Most of the contamination has been found on damp kitchen waste,

apparently deposited and spread by contaminated gnats and fruit flies. The source of the insect contamination is still being investigated. Intensive fogging with insecticide took place in the buffer area this weekend. Traps were set in the buffer area and around the site, and no contaminated insects have been found for several days.

**2. There is no way to monitor individuals outside of controlled areas.**

Worker and public safety continues to be our number one priority. For workers who would like to have continued assurance, voluntary monitoring stations are being installed in several locations. A complete list of those locations was distributed with the 10/9/98 all-employee message and also is included at the end of this message and on the Internet at [www.hanford.gov/safety/consread/index.html](http://www.hanford.gov/safety/consread/index.html)

NOTE: The current distribution program for all-employee messages is not designed to send tables. The Internet chart may be easier for you to read.

SUPERVISORS: Please post the Internet table of monitoring stations and make it accessible to your employees.

**3. There was enough contamination to shut down Canister Storage Building on Wednesday. Why are we not concerned about working there today (Thursday)?**

When surveys detected contamination in and around the CSB, management stopped construction activities as a precautionary measure until safe work conditions could be verified. The contamination was cleaned up, and new surveys showed that it is safe to return to work. These surveys are continuing. A survey station is available in the CSB area for those workers.

**4. If they surveyed my work area yesterday, how do I know this is going to be followed up?**

Our radiological control teams routinely survey all areas of the site where contamination may be found, such as dumpsters and garbage cans. Increased surveillance is taking place in areas where contamination is more likely to occur or has already occurred.

**5. Can we get access to portal monitors in B Plant?**

Because several new monitoring stations have been set up, it is not necessary for anyone to use the B Plant monitors, other than individuals who normally use that equipment. For example, monitoring is being provided on-site at the Canister Storage Building.

**6. Can portal monitors be installed in our work areas?**

In some cases, radiation monitoring has been expanded to include specific work areas. The Canister Storage Building construction

site is an example. For other employees, monitors are being installed at locations that are convenient to most work areas. Check the list at the end of this message. If you have difficulty obtaining personal or equipment monitoring, contact the Radiological Investigation Task Team at 376-7718.

7. If the contamination is not a big concern, why are there so many news stories (i.e., newspaper articles and TV news)?

Any contamination outside of a control zone is of concern because it isn't supposed to happen. We have increased the all-employee messages to keep our work force informed.

The fact that Hanford contamination was identified off site in the City of Richland landfill is of significant interest to our community. We are maintaining contact with the local news media to ensure that residents receive full and accurate information on this issue.

Even though the level of contamination was very small, any contamination outside of controlled radiation areas is unacceptable. The site is working with the City of Richland and the Washington Department of Health to ensure that this type of incident does not happen again.

8. I don't understand the risk to me when I hear that the contamination is so-and-so disintegrations per minute (e.g., 20,000 dpm)

Any unanticipated risk is unacceptable, regardless of its significance or alleged insignificance. A rate of 20,000 dpm from contamination is a small fraction of a millirad dose that could occur if a person were in contact with such contamination for one hour. Although not precisely equivalent, a 10-millirad dose is much less than a dental x-ray. The highest dose rate we have measured during this incident is about 15 millirads. It was found on a piece of rotting fruit in a dumpster.

Also, a 20,000-dpm rate is so small that it wouldn't be recorded on the dosimeters we use on site to measure potential exposures to employees working in radiation control areas. As of this time, surveys and bioassays show that no worker who has been near the 10-acre controlled buffer area has received any radiation exposure from this contamination incident.

9. How are we establishing the perimeter of the controlled area?

A very conservative controlled area was established and posted based on the identification of contaminated areas. The established area included the most probable source of contamination.

10. Can we have our personal vehicles surveyed?

Yes. Vehicle surveys are available upon request from your Radiation Protection organization or at any of the locations listed at the end of this message. If you have difficulty obtaining personal vehicle monitoring, contact the Radiological

**Investigation Task Team at 376-7718.**

11. Are we sure the fixative is a contributing factor to the contamination?

The sugar based contamination fixative may be a contributing factor to pests spreading contamination, but it is not a contributing factor to the contamination itself. We are working aggressively to determine the contamination source.

12. Are we sure that 241-ER-152 is a source of the contamination?

We are continuing to investigate all possible sources of contamination within the 10-acre buffer area south of B Plant, including 241-ER-152.

13. The contaminated fruit flies have been detected in the 200 Area. How far can a fruit fly fly?

Independent fruit fly movement is limited to the immediate surroundings. Weather factors or relocation of food sources can expand the fruit fly range. A short description of fruit flies and their habits is on our web page at [www.hanford.gov/safety/conspread/index.html](http://www.hanford.gov/safety/conspread/index.html)

To date, contaminants spread by flying pests have been found only within a radius of approximately 1/4 mile from the 10-acre buffer area. On Saturday, Oct. 10, and Sunday, Oct. 12, Waste Management Northwest fogged the posted area south of B Plant with insecticide.

Traps were placed in the buffer area, as well as other locations around the site. No contamination has been detected on trapped insects outside the buffer area for several days, and none was found on insects inside the buffer area on Saturday or Sunday.

#### LOCATIONS WHERE PERSONNEL MONITORING IS AVAILABLE

NOTE: The current distribution program for all-employee messages is not designed to send tables. The Internet chart may be easier for you to read.

SUPERVISORS: Please post the Internet table of monitoring stations and make it accessible to your employees.

#### 200 EAST

LOCATION	TYPE OF MONITORING	ACCESSIBILITY	ACCESS HOURS
272AW	PCM-1B	Easy Access - Near Lunch room - located in a non-rad area	Contact Shift Mgr. 24 hrs
RCT Survey	Easy Access - HPT Office	located in a non-rad area	Contact Shift Mgr. 24 hrs

209E PCM-1B Easy Access - located in a Sign in at Front  
non-rad area desk 7am-3pm

2704HV RCT Survey Easy Access - HPT Office Contact HPT  
rm H104 located in a non-rad area Office rm H104  
7am-3:30

M0-048 PCM-1B Easy Access - located in Contact DynCorp  
non-rad area HPT office as  
needed  
7am-3:30

2025E RCT Survey HPT Office - located in a Contact Shift Mgr  
(200 LERF) non-rad area 7am -3:30

200 E Hand & Foot Easy Access - Maint. Area 7am - 3:30  
Garage Monitor located in a non-rad area

#### 200 West

LOCATION	TYPE OF MONITORING	ACCESSIBILITY	ACCESS HOURS
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272WA	PCM-1B	Easy Access - Near lunch room-located in a non-rad area	Contact Shift Mgr. 24 hour
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	RCT Survey	Easy Access - HPT Office located in a non-rad area	Contact Shift Mgr. 24 hour
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M0-438	RCT Survey	Easy Access - HPT Office located in a non-rad area	7am - 3:30pm
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271T	RCT Survey	Easy Access - HPT Office located in a non-rad area	Contact HPT Office 7am-3:30pm
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222S Lab.	RCT Survey	HPT Office - located in a non-rad area within facility	Go to front desk and contact HPT Office 7am-3:30p
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M0-556	PCM-1B	Easy access - located in a non-rad area	7am - 3:30pm Contact DynCorp HPT office as needed
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GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGE  
OCTOBER 12, 1998  
+++++  
MANAGERS - PLEASE POST!! PLEASE POST!! PLEASE POST!!

TO: All Site Employees

FROM: James Mecca, RL Deputy Assistant Manager, Facilities  
Transition; Bob Shoup, FDH vice president,  
Environment, Safety Health, and Quality; and  
Bob Frix, president and general manager, DynCorp  
Tri-Cities Services

SUBJECT: TRASH COLLECTION

Your help is needed. Over the weekend trash was collected from dumpsters in the 300 area, 400 area, 200 West area and in some portions of the 200 East area. Dumpsters in other areas are being collected today. These dumpsters must be surveyed to verify that they are free from radioactive contamination before they are put back into service. The dumpsters are being marked when the survey is completed.

Please do not place anything in a trash dumpster unless it has a marking indicating that HPTs have completed the survey. We expect these surveys to be complete by Wednesday or Thursday of this week.

If you have questions, contact Brian Dixon of DynCorp at 376-7053.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGEOctober 13, 1998  
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TO: All Site Employees

FROM: James Mecca, RL Deputy Assistant Manager, Facilities  
Transition; Bob Shoup, FDH vice president,  
Environment, Safety Health, and Quality; and  
Bob Frix, president and general manager, DynCorp  
Tri-Cities Services

SUBJECT: TUESDAY UPDATE ON CONTAMINATION SPREADS

PLEASE POST!! PLEASE POST!! PLEASE POST!! PLEASE POST!!

We want to continue our efforts to keep you informed regarding what we are learning about the contamination spreads outside of radiation control zones on the Hanford Site, and in the Richland city landfill.

## RICHLAND LANDFILL

Today we can report the very welcome news that our excavation at the Richland city landfill was completed late yesterday, after we boxed and removed about 200 tons of Hanford Site solid waste. We have brought that solid waste back to Hanford, and placed it in low level waste burial grounds in the 200-West Area. Yesterday morning, we found additional contamination in food waste in Hanford's trash at the city landfill. Once again, the contamination was low level, beta-emitting, and consisted principally of strontium-90.

Today, we will push back into place and cap off the solid waste in the city landfill that was disturbed in our excavation of Hanford trash. If further study shows any potential for further contamination, we will -- with city concurrence -- use a "geo-

probe" to test any other areas in the landfill that may be of concern to the city.

A geo-probe is an hydraulic-powered instrument that is mounted on the back of a pickup truck. The probe carries a variety of monitoring devices and can be driven 50-60 feet below the surface to take readings. Use of the probe will prevent potential worker exposure in handling additional refuse. Today we also will have a very important meeting with city officials, to try to establish a path forward for resuming garbage disposal in the city landfill.

While we believe that the contaminated solid waste episode that we have just experienced is winding down to a successful conclusion, we will not be satisfied until the city of Richland tells us that it is satisfied. The city is engaged in many active and farsighted pursuits on behalf of citizens. It is deeply committed to selective industrial recruitment and business development. We support and applaud the city of Richland in those efforts, and we are committed to doing everything we can to preserve a civic image that is conducive to economic growth.

#### CONTAMINATED FLIES CONFINED TO ONE AREA

In perhaps the most positive discovery of recent days, we have confirmed that no contaminated flies or gnats have been found outside of the 10-acre area south of B-Plant where the contamination spots were first discovered. This finding reinforces our belief that no fruit crops in the region have been affected by contaminated insects. The contaminated insects are limited to a relatively small area that is isolated 25 miles north of the Tri-Cities.

Over the past week, we have set out approximately 75 new traps for flying insects. At the present time, there are 12 sets of traps around various border areas of the Hanford Site, as well as a cluster of six traps at the Richland city landfill. We also currently have 11 traps set out in and around the 10-acre area that is roped off south of B-Plant. Only four traps in the 10-acre area demonstrated contaminated flies, and no traps outside of that area showed any contaminated flies. No contaminated flies have been found in any locations during the past five days.

The fly traps, shaped like large mayonnaise jars, are baited with pieces of fruit and are taken out of service as soon as they capture a significant number of insects. The levels of contamination found in the traps varied from less than 5,000 to 400,000 disintegrations per minute (dpm).

#### RADIOLOGICAL CONTROL ACTIVITIES

The directed fogging activities with malathion in the 10-acre area south of B-Plant that we described to you in previous messages continued last evening after the day shift ended. The same fogging treatment was applied Saturday, Sunday, and will be applied again tonight.

Surveying of Site dumpsters continues. Two additional contaminated dumpsters were found yesterday near the PUREX plant, just southeast of the 10-acre area south of B-Plant. These dumpsters had contaminated spots reading 10,000 dpm and 40,000 dpm respectively.

Thus far, 21 contaminated spots, many on dumpsters, have been found on the Hanford Site and taken to burial grounds. Within the

dumpsters, the contamination was found mostly on food waste, while a few spots were fixed contamination. Levels of radioactivity on the food, dumpsters, and some locations in and near trailers just south of B-Plant varied from 10,000 to 700,000 dpm, and consisted of beta-emitting radioactivity mostly comprised of strontium-90.

We also are working to reduce the size of the roped-off area of interest south of B Plant. Radiological control technicians are conducting shoulder-to-shoulder surveys across the 10-acre site. As these intense surveys show that specific areas are free of contamination, we will be able to reduce the size of the buffer zone and hone in on the source of the contamination.

Bioassays have been extended to include nuclear operators and radiological control technicians who worked in the 241-ER-152 diversion box in late September, about 29 people. Thus far, bioassays done on these workers and on workers given the tests last week have shown no uptake of radioactivity. An additional personnel monitoring station where workers can go to obtain personal surveys, besides the locations reported to you in earlier messages, has been set up in MO841 in the 200-West Area.

#### SOLID WASTE TEAM

The Solid Waste team continues in its efforts to contact any vendors or other persons who may have been in the 10-acre area south of B-Plant in the past two weeks. Personnel and vehicle surveys will be offered to these vendors. During the past weekend, the Solid Waste Team collected trash from all Site areas except the 100 Areas, 1100 Area and the HAMMER facility. This trash (about eight truck loads) was disposed of in the 200 West Area low level burial grounds.

Surveys of all site dumpsters are nearly complete. PLEASE REMEMBER TO DEPOSIT WASTE ONLY IN DUMPSTERS MARKED WITH THE WORDS "HPT SURVEY" AND A DATE.

The team has obtained the state permit needed for disposal of garbage in the low level burial grounds. The modification allows 50 loads of trash to be disposed in these Site burial grounds. However, disposal in burial grounds is not an ideal solution long-term, because it is expensive and it takes up valuable space needed for Hanford's cleanup mission. For this reason, the team continues to plan for trash surveying methods that will be acceptable to the city of Richland, so that we can resume Site solid waste disposal in the city landfill.

#### MEDIA AVAILABILITY

Bob Shoup, Bob DeLannoy, and city officials will make themselves available to the media later this week, in order to answer any questions that may have arisen. While we anticipate that this appearance will be the final major press conference concerning this event, policy team members will be available for individual questions from reporters until all issues are resolved and all inquiries answered.

In conclusion, we want to state that we remain committed to the principles with which we began this investigation. Foremost among those commitments is the fact that the health and safety of our employees, and of the citizens of the region surrounding the Hanford Site comes first. No contamination outside of radiation control areas is acceptable, and we have zero tolerance for any contamination spreads. We will continue to investigate the

source(s) of contamination, and we will work until the contamination is controlled and confined.

We value our partnership with the city of Richland, and we want to be sure that this event concludes in a manner that satisfies the city and allows us to share a positive future. We will continue to keep you informed, although daily messages most likely will not be necessary. We will send you periodic messages as needed as long-term plans for disposal of Hanford solid waste are finalized and as the radiological control team shrinks and finally releases the 10-acre area south of B-Plant to normal operations.

Many of you have told us that you have appreciated being kept informed. We consider it to be our job and duty to keep you, the citizens, employees and tax-payers of this area, informed about the issues that affect you. We appreciate your confidence and trust.

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GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGEOctober 15, 1998  
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TO: All Site Employees

FROM: James Mecca, RL Deputy Assistant Manager, Facilities  
Transition; Bob Shoup, FDH vice president,  
Environment, Safety Health, and Quality; and  
Bob Frix, president and general manager, DynCorp  
Tri-Cities Services

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON CONTAMINATION SPREADS

PLEASE POST!! PLEASE POST!! PLEASE POST!! PLEASE POST!!

We want to continue our efforts to keep you informed regarding what we are learning about the contamination spreads outside of radiation control zones on the Hanford Site, and in the Richland city landfill.

## RICHLAND LANDFILL

The excavated areas at the Richland city landfill have been capped off, and our demobilization there is nearly complete. The total amount of Hanford trash removed was about 210 tons, or 168 cubic meters (220 cubic yards). We are now holding discussions with the city concerning whether any additional surveys for potential contamination are necessary in the landfill. We are constructing a detailed time line to help make this determination. The time line is expected to tell us whether there could have been a potential for contaminated trash to reach the landfill between September 24 and 28. Our efforts thus far have looked at trash disposed in the city landfill September 28-30. If we and the city decide that further surveying is necessary, it will be done with a "geo-probe" in order to prevent potential worker exposure in handling additional refuse.

We also continue to hold frequent meetings with city officials on the long-term path forward to resume solid waste disposal. We are working out the details of various trash handling methods, and considering alternatives to discuss with the city. It remains extremely important to us that the City of Richland be satisfied, that its civic image be preserved, and that we emerge from this incident as partners.

## CONTAMINATED FLIES ISOLATED

Fortunately, the good news that no contaminated flies or gnats have been found outside of the 10-acre area south of B-Plant where the contamination spots were first discovered. In fact, no contaminated flies have been found in any locations at all since October 7. Nevertheless, trapping will continue for at least another week.



### **RADIOLOGICAL CONTROL ACTIVITIES**

The directed fogging activities with malathion in the 10-acre area south of B-Plant that we described to you in previous messages could not be applied either Tuesday or Wednesday evenings, due to high winds. However, another application is planned for this coming weekend.

Surveying of Site dumpsters continues. Two more contaminated trash cans have been found, bringing to 23 the total number of contaminated spots found. The additional contaminated cans were found yesterday, one inside of the 10-acre area south of B-Plant, and one just west of that area near the 200-East Area shops. As before, the spots demonstrated low levels of beta-emitting contamination, principally strontium-90.

The 10-acre area south of B Plant is still roped off as a radiological buffer area, but portions of the area could be released as early as tonight. Unless any unforeseen contamination is detected, we expect to release most of that area, except for some mobile offices, by the time most employees return to work Monday.

Bioassays have been extended to include approximately 13 more persons who might have worked in or passed through the 10-acre area south of B-Plant during the time period of interest in late September and early October. This brings the total number of persons taking bio-assay tests to 55. Thus far, 32 results have been returned, with one person testing marginally positive. This test result may be a false positive due to its extremely low level. The individual is now taking a re-test to clarify the results. All bioassay results are expected by October 20.

### **SOLID WASTE TEAM**

The Solid Waste team continues in its efforts to contact any vendors or other persons who may have been in the 10-acre area south of B-Plant in the past two weeks. Personnel and vehicle surveys will be offered to these vendors. Trash collected from the Hanford Site each day continues to be disposed of in the 200 West Area low level burial grounds. We thus far have disposed about 10 loads, with a total of 50 loads allowed by our state permit. Therefore, we have a few weeks to reach agreement with the City of Richland, and resume Site solid waste disposal in the city landfill. Our preference is to reach agreement as soon as possible.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

With the city's concurrence, we have decided not to hold a news conference this week. Happily, this decision was reached because there have been no significant new discoveries. We may hold a news conference jointly with the City of Richland when we reach agreement on a path forward.

We are glad that we have been able to maintain the trust and confidence of the region throughout this episode, and that we have policies and procedures that continue to make the Hanford Site a good neighbor to surrounding citizens. We will continue to keep you informed as developments warrant.

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**GENERAL DELIVERY MESSAGE****October 29, 1998**  
\*\*\*\*\***TO: ALL SITE EMPLOYEES****FROM: JAMES MECCA, RL Deputy Assistant Manager, Facilities  
Transition; BOB SHOUP, FDH Vice President,  
Environment, Safety, Health and Quality; BOB FRIX,  
President and General Manager, DynCorp Tri-Cities  
Services****SUBJECT: UPDATE ON CONTAMINATION SPREADS**

It has been a week since we last provided you with information concerning the contamination spreads that occupied so much of the Site's time and attention during October. We wanted you to have an update before the weekend.

Three spots of contamination were found this past week, all near B-Plant in the 200-East Area, and all on Monday, October 26. A trap for flying insects just outside of the glove bag cover over Diversion Box 241-ER-152 was found to contain 100,000 disintegrations per minute (dpm) of beta/gamma contamination. Another such trap on the north side of MO-966 near B-Plant was found to contain 500,000 dpm, also beta/gamma. Additionally, a plastic bag containing food garbage in a dumpster just outside of the 2101-M Building (south of B-Plant) was found to contain 30,000 dpm. The dumpster was sealed in plastic and taken out of service.

Site pest control specialists sprayed the area around the 241-ER-152 Diversion Box with malathion on Wednesday, and sprayed the 152 pit and its glove bag cover with pyrethrin (PT-565) on Tuesday. They have placed new insect traps inside the pit to confirm that the pests have been eradicated. At this time, a comprehensive investigation of the source of the contamination is underway, with a report expected in late November. Multiple sources, including the 241-ER-152 Diversion Box, are still being considered for the contamination that we experienced during late September and October. Experts from several contractors will be involved in the investigation.

Once the source of the contamination is identified, procedures governing work involving the source will be revised to provide assurance against future contamination events. As Hanford's waste cleanup moves forward into active operations that disturb legacy wastes in order to move them or better confine them, we must be sure that we control these substances and continue to protect the health and safety of employees and the public.

DynCorp Tri-Cities Services is continuing to dispose of everyday Site solid waste in the 200-West Area low level waste burial grounds. Thus far, we have disposed of 19 loads of solid waste,

while our state permit allows us to dispose up to 50 loads. Therefore, we still have several more weeks during which we can continue this disposal method while the Department of Energy negotiates with offsite disposal services and locations for a long-term disposal agreement.

The DOE is negotiating with the City of Richland, to determine solid waste survey standards that are acceptable to both the City and to DOE. Negotiations are cordial, as all share the same ultimate goal of assuring that the landfill, a valuable city resource, remains free of radioactivity. We also share the goal of maintaining a positive civic and regional image that is conducive to growth.

DOE has proposed to the City a graded survey approach, in which we would survey all Site trash for a 30-day baseline period. Following that, and based on the baseline results, it is proposed to separate Site trash into three different categories, based on the types and locations of facilities in which it is generated.

We hope that this graded approach, or another compromise position, will provide the assurances the City needs to reach agreement with DOE. DOE is also pursuing negotiations with another commercial refuse contractor as a back-up service for future needs.

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